Patent

STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Andrew Thomas, et al.)

Re: Information Disclosure

Statement

Serial No.: 10/005,376

Group: 2161

Filed: December 4, 2001

Examiner: not yet assigned

Our Ref: B-4410 619360-7

For: "ENCODING AND DECODING OF

SOUND LINKS"

) Date: April 17, 2002 RECEIVED

Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

APR 2 9 2002

Washington, D.C. 20231

Technology Center 2100

Sir:

In accordance with the Applicants' duty to disclose information which may be material to the examination of this application, the undersigned respectfully requests that the Examiner consider on the merits the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) before issuing the first Office Action on the merits. We are enclosing herewith a copy of each document listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified).

The documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 (modified) include those cited in the European Search Report for European Application No. EP 01310004. A copy of the Search Report is Please note that U.S. Patent No. 6,163,803 to enclosed herewith. Watanabe, cited in the European Search Report, was previously cited in an IDS filed on March 18, 2002 for the subject application. Therefore, a copy of the document is not included with this IDS.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made (37 C.F.R. 1.97(g)), an admission that the information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability, or that no other material information exists.

The Applicants believe that this IDS is being submitted before the issuance of a first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance. no official fees should be due; and this IDS should be considered

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on the merits. If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of the first Office Action on the merits and before the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-0415 \$180.00 (or any other required amount), which is the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c); and this IDS should be fully considered on the merits, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d). If this IDS is being submitted after the issuance of a Final Rejection or Notice of Allowance, then the Commissioner is not authorized to charge \$180.00 to Deposit Account No. 12-0415.

The filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed as an admission against interest in any manner. (Notice of January 9, 1992, 1135 O.G. 13-25, at 25.)

The person making this statement is the practitioner who signs below on the basis of information supplied by an individual associated with the filing and prosecution of this application (37 C.F.R. § 1.56(c)) and on the basis of information in the practitioner's file.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to the "Hon. Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231",

on April 17. 2002 by Suzanne Johnston.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard P. Berg Attorney for Applicant Reg. No. 28,145

LADAS & PARRY 5670 Wilshire Boulevard Suite 2100 Los Angeles, CA 90036 (323) 934-2300

Enclosures: Form PTO-1449 (modified) (1 page)

Copy of Search Report for EP 01310004 (1 page)

Copy of documents listed on Form PTO-1449 (modified)

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Form PTO-1449 (Modified)	ATTY DOCKET NO. U.S. SERIAL NO. B-4410 619360-7 10/005,376				
LIST OF PATENTS AND PUBLICATIONS	APPLICANTS Andrew Thomas, et al.				
STATEMENT	FILING DATE December 4, 2001 GROUP 2161				

ISSUE DATE EXAMINER DOCUMENT NUMBER of 102(e) DATE IF INITIAL APPROPRIATE 379 Noonen et al. 93.27 5,761,280 6/98 88,13 379 Rhie et al. 9/99 5,953,392 Low et al. 379 88.17 6/01 6,243,443 B1

				FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
DOCUMENT NUMBER	PUBLICATION DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES/NO				
01/86451 A1	11/01	WO							

OTHER D	OCUMENTS ((Including	Author,	Title.	Date.	Pertin	ent Page	Etc.)	
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EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.